

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 463
By Burks

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Donald M. Elkins of Tennessee Technological University on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who, in their years of work, have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Donald M. Elkins is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for almost 40 years as a professor, the last ten at Tennessee Technological University (TTU) as Dean and Professor of the College of Agriculture and Human Ecology; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Elkins will be taking a much deserved retirement this year; and

WHEREAS, Donald Elkins was born September 15, 1940, at Woodville, Alabama; he earned a Bachelor of Science degree at Tennessee Polytechnic Institute (now TTU) in 1962, a Master of Science degree from Auburn University in 1964, and a Ph.D from Auburn in 1967; and

WHEREAS, Donald Elkins served at Auburn University as a Research Assistant and a NASA Fellow prior to moving to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (SIUC) in 1967, where he served as an Assistant Professor until 1971, Associate Professor from 1971-74, Professor from 1974-95, and Associate Dean for Instructional/Academic programs from September 1985-95; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Elkins returned to TTU on October 1, 1995, as Dean and Professor of the College of Agriculture and Human Ecology; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Donald Elkins is an active and important part of his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including the American Society of Agronomy, Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi, Alpha Zeta, Gamma Sigma Delta, National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA), Delta Tau Alpha, American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Tennessee Council of Agriculture Deans, American Association of State

Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources (AASCARR) and Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Donald Elkins has served on a number of national, regional and state committees of the American Society of Agronomy and NACTA; he has been active in evaluating manuscripts for agricultural journals and professional organization journals over the years and has presented many papers at professional meetings; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Elkins has served TTU in numerous capacities as a member of School of Agriculture Committees, College of Agriculture and Human Ecology Committees, and a number of University Committees; he has engaged in a wide variety of community and public service activities, has engaged in research in turfgrass growth inhibitors, conservation tillage/cropping systems, allelopathetic effects of grasses on corn and soybeans in a no-till system and developing textbook and laboratory manual materials in crop science, and has published a number of books and book chapters in those and related areas; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Dr. Donald Elkins received NACTA's Central Region Distinguished Teaching Award and the Fellow Award in 1976, the NACTA Ensminger-Interstate Distinguished Teacher Award in 1977, the Agronomic Resident Education Award from ASA in 1981, the ASA Fellow Award in 1987, a Certificate of Appreciation from ACOP for ten years of service as Associate Dean for Academic Programs at SIUC, the SIUC yearbook, Obelisk's Outstanding Faculty Member for Agriculture Award in 1970, the Standard Oil of Indiana Good Teaching Award at SIUC in 1971, the Mirror Top 20 in 1974, Alpha Gamma Rho Faculty Recognition Award at SIUC in 1992, Honorary State FFA Degree in 1996, and American FFA Degree in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Elkins has been recognized for his sterling professional service through listings in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in the Midwest*, *Who's Who in Technology Today*, *Who's Who in Frontier Science and Technology*, *American Men and Women in Science*, *Personalities of America*, *Outstanding Educators of America*, *Men of Achievement* and as the recipient of the Friends of Cumberland District Award from TAAA&S; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Donald Elkins has made innovative contributions in administration wherever he has taught and has worked diligently to advance the frontiers of knowledge in his chosen field; he has worked steadily to open and expand lines of communications between the

College of Agriculture and Human Ecology and Agriculture and Family and Consumer Science teachers, Extension personnel, Tennessee Higher Education Commissioners and Tennessee Board of Regents members and others through his newsletter *Great Things are Happening*; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Elkins exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Elkins has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Donald M. Elkins of Tennessee Technological University our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.